
SENATE BILL 6390

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senators Shin, Delvin, Kilmer, Swecker, Fairley, Sheldon, Haugen, Hobbs, Pridemore, Franklin, Rasmussen, and Eide

Read first time 01/16/08. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the modification of the governing boards of
2 state colleges and universities; amending RCW 28B.20.100, 28B.30.100,
3 28B.35.100, and 28B.40.100; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds:

6 (1) College and university faculty members are subject specialists
7 with extensive experience in teaching and learning assessment, as well
8 as their specialized fields;

9 (2) College and university faculty members are frontline service
10 providers who conduct research to discover new technologies and produce
11 knowledge, design courses and curricula, assess students' development,
12 train teachers, supervise student research, and pursue grants and
13 funding for programs and projects at their institutions; their efforts
14 can affect the health, economy, and social well-being of the state, and
15 assist in the production of cultural and artistic achievements that
16 benefit citizens throughout the state;

17 (3) College and university faculty members participate in the
18 fundamental missions of their institutions by designing and monitoring

1 programs, including standards, curricula, and degree requirements, at
2 the level of department, school or college, and for the college or
3 university as a whole;

4 (4) The boards of regents and trustees of Washington's universities
5 and colleges are charged with the establishment of their institutions'
6 entrance requirements, schools, colleges, departments, and degree
7 requirements, and assess the outcomes of the use of state funds;

8 (5) Faculty bring an important, long-range perspective and
9 experience to board deliberations made by state institutions of higher
10 education; and

11 (6) RCW 28B.10.520 stipulates that "Each member of a board of
12 regents or board of trustees of a university or other state institution
13 of higher education, before entering upon his duties, shall take and
14 subscribe an oath to discharge faithfully and honestly his duties and
15 to perform strictly and impartially the same to the best of his
16 ability, such oath to be filed with the secretary of state."

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.20.100 and 2006 c 78 s 1 are each amended to read
18 as follows:

19 (1) The governance of the University of Washington shall be vested
20 in a board of regents to consist of (~~ten~~) eleven members, one of whom
21 shall be a student and, beginning with the first appointment after the
22 effective date of this section, one of whom shall be a full-time or
23 emeritus member of the faculty of the university at the time of
24 appointment. The governor shall select the student member from a list
25 of candidates, of at least three and not more than five, submitted by
26 the governing body of the associated students. The governor shall
27 select the faculty member from a list of candidates, of at least three
28 and not more than five, submitted by the governing body of the
29 university faculty. They shall be appointed by the governor with the
30 consent of the senate, and, except for the student member, shall hold
31 their offices for a term of six years from the first day of October and
32 until their successors shall be appointed and qualified. The student
33 member shall hold his or her office for a term of one year from the
34 first day of July until the first day of July of the following year or
35 until his or her successor is appointed and qualified, whichever is
36 later. The student member shall be a full-time student in good
37 standing at the university at the time of appointment.

1 (2) Six members of said board shall constitute a quorum for the
2 transaction of business. In the case of a vacancy, or when an
3 appointment is made after the date of the expiration of a term, the
4 governor shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of the
5 regent whose office has become vacant or expired.

6 (3) Except for the term of the student member, no more than the
7 terms of two members will expire simultaneously on the last day of
8 September in any one year.

9 (4) A student appointed under this section shall excuse himself or
10 herself from participation or voting on matters relating to the hiring,
11 discipline, or tenure of faculty members and personnel.

12 (5) In accordance with the ethics in public service act, chapter
13 42.52 RCW, all public employees may "resolve conflicts of interest by
14 disclosing any interest that may be in conflict with his or her
15 official duties and abstaining from participation in any discussions or
16 actions on any issue where the interest may be affected."

17 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.30.100 and 2006 c 78 s 2 are each amended to read
18 as follows:

19 (1) The governance of Washington State University shall be vested
20 in a board of regents to consist of (~~ten~~) eleven members one of whom
21 shall be a student and, beginning with the first appointment after the
22 effective date of this section, one of whom shall be a full-time or
23 emeritus member of the faculty of the university at the time of
24 appointment. The governor shall select the student member from a list
25 of candidates, of at least three and not more than five, submitted by
26 the governing body of the associated students. The governor shall
27 select the faculty member from a list of candidates, of at least three
28 and not more than five, submitted by the governing body of the
29 university faculty. They shall be appointed by the governor, by and
30 with the consent of the senate and, except for the student member,
31 shall hold their offices for a term of six years from the first day of
32 October and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The
33 student member shall hold his or her office for a term of one year from
34 the first day of July until the first day of July of the following year
35 or until his or her successor is appointed and qualified, whichever is
36 later. The student member shall be a full-time student in good
37 standing at the university at the time of appointment.

1 (2) Six members of said board shall constitute a quorum for the
2 transaction of business. In the case of a vacancy or when an
3 appointment is made after the date of the expiration of a term, the
4 governor shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of the
5 regent whose office has become vacant or expired.

6 (3) Except for the term of the student member, no more than the
7 terms of two members will expire simultaneously on the last day of
8 September in any one year.

9 (4) Each regent shall, before entering upon the discharge of his
10 respective duties as such, execute a good and sufficient bond to the
11 state of Washington, with two or more sufficient sureties, residents of
12 the state, or with a surety company licensed to do business within the
13 state, in the penal sum of not less than five thousand dollars,
14 conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties as such regent:
15 PROVIDED, That the university shall pay any fees incurred for any such
16 bonds for their board members.

17 (5) A student appointed under this section shall excuse himself or
18 herself from participation or voting on matters relating to the hiring,
19 discipline, or tenure of faculty members and personnel.

20 (6) In accordance with the ethics in public service act, chapter
21 42.52 RCW, all public employees may "resolve conflicts of interest by
22 disclosing any interest that may be in conflict with his or her
23 official duties and abstaining from participation in any discussions or
24 actions on any issue where the interest may be affected."

25 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.35.100 and 2006 c 78 s 3 are each amended to read
26 as follows:

27 (1) The governance of each of the regional universities shall be
28 vested in a board of trustees consisting of ((eight)) nine members, one
29 of whom shall be a student and, beginning with the first appointment
30 after the effective date of this section, one of whom shall be a full-
31 time or emeritus member of the faculty of the university at the time of
32 appointment. The governor shall select the student member from a list
33 of candidates, of at least three and not more than five, submitted by
34 the governing body of the associated students. The governor shall
35 select the faculty member from a list of candidates, of at least three
36 and not more than five, submitted by the governing body of the
37 university faculty. They shall be appointed by the governor with the

1 consent of the senate and, except for the student member, shall hold
2 their offices for a term of six years from the first day of October and
3 until their successors are appointed and qualified. The student member
4 shall hold his or her office for a term of one year from the first day
5 of July and until the first day of July of the following year or until
6 his or her successor is appointed and qualified, whichever is later.
7 The student member shall be a full-time student in good standing at the
8 respective university at the time of appointment.

9 (2) Five members of the board constitute a quorum for the
10 transaction of business. In case of a vacancy, or when an appointment
11 is made after the date of expiration of the term, the governor shall
12 fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of the trustee whose
13 office has become vacant or expired.

14 (3) Except for the term of the student member, no more than the
15 terms of two members will expire simultaneously on the last day of
16 September in any one year.

17 (4) A student appointed under this section shall excuse himself or
18 herself from participation or voting on matters relating to the hiring,
19 discipline, or tenure of faculty members and personnel.

20 (5) In accordance with the ethics in public service act, chapter
21 42.52 RCW, all public employees may "resolve conflicts of interest by
22 disclosing any interest that may be in conflict with his or her
23 official duties and abstaining from participation in any discussions or
24 actions on any issue where the interest may be affected."

25 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.40.100 and 2006 c 78 s 4 are each amended to read
26 as follows:

27 (1) The governance of The Evergreen State College shall be vested
28 in a board of trustees consisting of ((eight)) nine members, one of
29 whom shall be a student and, beginning with the first appointment after
30 the effective date of this section, one of whom shall be a full-time or
31 emeritus member of the faculty of the college at the time of
32 appointment. The governor shall select the student member from a list
33 of candidates, of at least three and not more than five, submitted by
34 the student body. The governor shall select the faculty member from a
35 list of candidates, of at least three and not more than five, submitted
36 by the college faculty. They shall be appointed by the governor with
37 the consent of the senate and, except for the student member, shall

1 hold their offices for a term of six years from the first day of
2 October and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The
3 student member shall hold his or her office for a term of one year from
4 the first day of July and until the first day of July of the following
5 year or until his or her successor is appointed and qualified,
6 whichever is later. The student member shall be a full-time student in
7 good standing at the college at the time of appointment.

8 (2) Five members of the board constitute a quorum for the
9 transaction of business. In case of a vacancy, or when an appointment
10 is made after the date of expiration of the term, the governor shall
11 fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of the trustee whose
12 office has become vacant or expired.

13 (3) Except for the term of the student member, no more than the
14 terms of two members will expire simultaneously on the last day of
15 September in any one year.

16 (4) A student appointed under this section shall excuse himself or
17 herself from participation or voting on matters relating to the hiring,
18 discipline, or tenure of faculty members and personnel.

19 (5) In accordance with the ethics in public service act, chapter
20 42.52 RCW, all public employees may "resolve conflicts of interest by
21 disclosing any interest that may be in conflict with his or her
22 official duties and abstaining from participation in any discussions or
23 actions on any issue where the interest may be affected."

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